

09/830684

JCO8 Rec'd PCT/PTO

30 APR 2001

206379US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

TAKASHI MASATO

SERIAL NO: NEW U.S. PCT APPLN.  
(Based on PCT/JP99/05928)

: ATTN: APPLICATION BRANCH

FILED: HEREWITH

FOR: STAGE UNIT, EXPOSURE APPARATUS,  
DEVICE MANUFACTURING METHOD,  
AND DEVICE

#4/A  
7-16-01  
AJONES

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Prior to a first examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as shown below. A marked-up copy follows this amendment.

Please replace the paragraph on page 6, lines 2-13, with the following text:

Q1 According to the first aspect of the present invention, there is provided a stage unit comprising: a sample stage that holds a sample; a stage driving mechanism that drives the sample stage in at least one direction; a first transmitting member to which at least one part of the stage driving mechanism is connected and a reaction force caused by driving the